GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1890
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Accidents in Coal Mines
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Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents occurred in the coal mines in the country during each of the last three years and the current year, company and State-wise;
(b) the number of workers died/injured in these accidents during the said period, company and State-wise;
(c) whether the Government has conducted any investigation into these accidents, if so, the outcome thereof and the number of officers found guilty and action taken against them, company and State-wise;
(d) whether the Government has laid adequate rules and norms for providing compensation and extended treatment facilities for the workers in the coal mines;
(e) if so, the details thereof;
(f) the amount of compensation disbursed in each of these cases of injury and death during the said period, year-wise and company-wise; and
(g) the steps taken by the Government to check such accidents in future?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL, POWER, NEW AND RENEWABLE ENERGY AND MINES (SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL)

(a) & (b):The details of fatal accidents/ fatalities and serious injuries in Coal India Ltd. (CIL) during the last three years and current year (upto June 2016) are given below.

â€¢ Company-wise, State-wise Fatal Accidents & Fatalities in CIL for last 3 years from 2013 to 2015 and 2016 (upto June)
Company Operating State Fatal Accidents Fatalities
2013 2014 2015 2016 2013 2014 2015 2016
ECL WB & Jharkhand 8 5 7 4 8 5 7 4
BCCL Jharkhand & WB 10 8 7 5 13 8 7 5
CCL Jharkhand 9 3 2 2 9 3 2 2
NCL MP & UP 6 7 1 3 6 7 1 3
WCL Maharashtra & MP 8 8 8 4 9 9 8 4
SECL Chhatisgarh & MP 13 11 10 5 13 12 10 6
MCL Odisha 1 1 3 0 1 1 3 0
NEC Assam 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
CIL 55 43 38 23
59 45 38 24

â€¢ Company-wise, State-wise Serious Accidents & Serious Injuries in CIL for last 3 years from 2013 to 2015 and 2016 (upto June)
Company Operating State Serious Accidents Serious Injuries
2013 2014 2015 2016 2013 2014 2015 2016
ECL WB & Jharkhand 61 69 39 18 62 69 40 18
BCCL Jharkhand & WB 17 17 9 1 17 17 9 1
CCL Jharkhand 7 7 6 4 7 7 6 5
NCL MP & UP 17 9 19 6 17 9 20 6
WCL Maharashtra & MP 45 36 24 5 47 38 27 5
SECL Chhatisgarh & MP 39 31 33 10 40 32 35 11
MCL Odisha 10 13 4 1 10 13 4 1
NEC Assam 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0
CIL 196
183 134 45
200
186 141 47

(c) :Investigations / inquiries of fatal mine accidents are conducted by the Internal Safety Organisation's (ISO) instructions to identify the causes and circumstances leading to those mine accidents and also to fix responsibility for those accidents as per extant

instructions In certain cases, the law enforcing agency / regulatory authority under the Mines Act, 1952 i.e. the Director General of Mine safety (DGMS) under the aegis of Ministry of Labour & Employment (MOLE) also conducts the statutory enquiry / investigation.

Apart from the above investigations / enquiries made under various provisions of statutes, the Internal Safety Organization (ISO) of each subsidiary company also conducts enquiry in case of fatal accident.
On the basis of findings of the ISO enquiries appropriate actions initiated against those persons who are held responsible, are taken as per the stipulated procedure. Company-wise/ State-wise status of disciplinary actions taken against those persons including Mine Officials who are held responsible in ISO inquiries in last three are given below:

Year ECL BCCL CCL NCL WCL SECL MCL NEC Total
WB & Jharkhand Jharkhand & WB Jharkhand MP&UP Maharashtra & MP Chhatisgarh & MP Odisha Assam
2013 20 20 12 8 26 34 15 0 135

2014 7 18 9 23 45 37 8 0 147
2015 13 22 1 1 22 42 18 0 119

(d) to (f):The provisions of Employees Compensation Act 2010 provide for compensation to be paid by the coal companies to the workers involved in fatal accidents and serious injuries resulting in permanent disablement.Coal companies provide the compensation to the next of the kin of the deceased employee in case of a fatal accident arising out of and in the course of his/her employment in accordance with the laid down provisions of the Act. In case of serious bodily injured person involved with permanent disability, compensation is paid as per the provisions made under Part-I of Schedule-I of Employees Compensation Act 2010 where the amount payable is decided after due assessment of the percentage of permanent disability of the victim of serious injury by an approved Medical Board of the respective coal company.

In addition to the compensation payable under the statute, Coal India Ltd. (CIL) offering the following to the families of the deceased workers.

In case of a fatal accident, employment to the kin of the deceased; special relief package of Rs.5 lakh to the employee; immediate payment of funeral expenses, monetary benefits under life cover scheme (LCS) of Rs.1,12,800/- as per National Coal Wage Agreement −IX; ex-gratia amount of Rs.84,600/- in case of death or permanent disablement; and gratuity on the basis of the length of service, provident fund as per Coal Mines Provident Fund Rules, encashment of earned leave and payment of pension as per Coal mines Pension Scheme 1998.

In case of serious bodily injury, in addition to the amount paid under the provisions of the statute additional ex-gratia amount of Rs.84,600/- in case of permanent disablement resulting on account of accident out of and in course of employment; salaries/wages to the injured while on duty for the period of his absence from the duty due to the said injury and extensive medical treatment facilities either in the company's hospital or any other referral hospital during his injury period and beyond.

The details of the amount of compensation paid in each of these cases of injury, year-wise and mine-wise is given at Annexure.

(g): The following steps have been taken to check such accidents in futurefor protection and precautionary methods to avoid any accidents or mishaps occurring in various coal mines and to improve the safety of workers working in coal mines:
(i) In order to reduce the exposure of miners to risk of accidents and health hazards, manual loading and transportation at the coal faces are being eliminated by mechanized drilling, loading and transportation;
(ii) Installation of Continuous Environment Monitoring System in gassy coal mines to give forewarning of any accumulation of inflammable gas;
(iii) Standard operating procedures have been established to avoid unsafe practices in mines.
(iv) Replacement of Low capacity loading and transport machineryby high capacity machines in open cast coal mines;
(v) Steps to improve the skills of the operators and competent persons using most modern training aids like simulators, 3D Artificial Intelligent Audio-Visuals;
(vi) Workers participation and sensitization in matters of safety through training campaigns, etc.
(vii) Deployment of Risk Assessment procedures.
(viii) To promote and propagate safety awareness in mines, National Safety Awards (Mines), National Conference on Safety in Mines is organized by DGMS. The recommendations of National Conference on Safety in Mines go a long way in enhancing safety of mine workers.

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